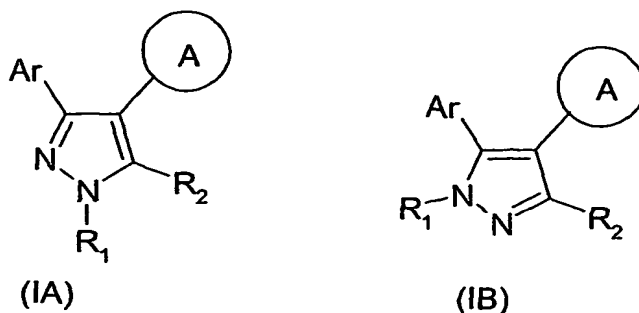


## Claims:

1. A compound of formula (IA) or (IB) or a salt, N-oxide, hydrate or solvate thereof:



wherein

Ar is an aryl, aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl), heteroaryl, or heteroaryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl) group, any of which being optionally substituted in the aryl or heteroaryl part thereof,

R<sub>1</sub> is hydrogen or optionally substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl;

R<sub>2</sub> is hydrogen, optionally substituted cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl; or a carboxyl, carboxamide or carboxyl ester group; and;

ring A is a non aromatic carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring wherein (i) a ring carbon is optionally substituted, and/or (ii) a ring nitrogen is optionally substituted by a group of formula  $-(\text{Alk}^1)_p-(\text{Cyc})_n-(\text{Alk}^3)_m-(\text{Z})_r-(\text{Alk}^2)_s-\text{Q}$  where

Alk<sup>1</sup>, Alk<sup>2</sup> and Alk<sup>3</sup> are optionally substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl,

Cyc is an optionally substituted carbocyclic or heterocyclic radical;

m, n, p, r and s are independently 0 or 1,

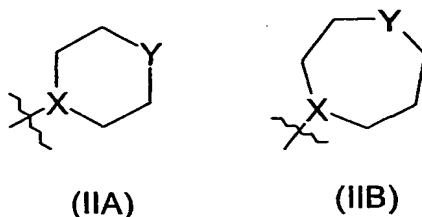
Z is -O-, -S-, -(C=O)-, -SO<sub>2</sub>-, -C(=O)O-, -OC(=O)-, -NR<sup>A</sup>-, -C(=O)NR<sup>A</sup>-, -NR<sup>A</sup>C(=O)-, -SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>A</sup>-, or -NR<sup>A</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>- wherein R<sup>A</sup> is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, and

Q is hydrogen or an optionally substituted carbocyclic or heterocyclic radical.

2. A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein Ar is an optionally substituted aryl, or heteroaryl radical; and ring A is a non aromatic carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring wherein (i) a ring carbon is optionally substituted, and/or (ii) a ring nitrogen is optionally substituted by a group of formula  $-(\text{Alk}^1)_p-(\text{Z})_r-(\text{Alk}^2)_s-\text{Q}$  where  
Alk<sup>1</sup>, Alk<sup>2</sup> are optionally substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl,  
p, r and s are independently 0 or 1,  
Z is -O-, -S-, -(C=O)-, -SO<sub>2</sub>-, -C(=O)O-, -OC(=O)-, -NR<sup>A</sup>-, -C(=O)NR<sup>A</sup>-,  
-NR<sup>A</sup>C(=O)-, -SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>A</sup>-, or -NR<sup>A</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>- wherein R<sup>A</sup> is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, and  
Q is hydrogen or an optionally substituted carbocyclic or heterocyclic radical.
3. A compound as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 wherein Ar is a 2-hydroxyphenyl group which is optionally further substituted.
4. A compound as claimed in claim 3 wherein Ar is a 2,4-dihydroxyphenyl group which is optionally further substituted in the 5-position.
5. A compound as claimed in claim 4 wherein Ar is a 2,4-dihydroxyphenyl group which is further substituted in the 5-position by chloro or bromo.
6. A compound as claimed in claim 4 wherein Ar is a 2,4-dihydroxyphenyl group further substituted in the 5-position by optionally substituted phenyl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl.
7. A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein Ar is a 2,4-dihydroxyphenyl group which is further substituted in the 5-position by phenylethyl group which is optionally substituted in the phenyl ring thereof.
8. A compound as claimed in any of the preceding claims wherein R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are independently hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n- or iso-propyl, hydroxyethyl, or benzyl.

9. A compound as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6 wherein  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are each hydrogen.

10. A compound as claimed in any of the preceding claims wherein ring A is a ring of formula (IIA) or (IIB):



wherein X represents CH or N, and Y represents CH, O, S or NH, wherein (i) a ring carbon is optionally substituted, and/or (ii) a ring nitrogen is optionally substituted by a group of formula  $-(Alk^1)_p-(Cyc)_n-(Alk^3)_m-(Z)_r-(Alk^2)_s-Q$  where

$Alk^1$ ,  $Alk^2$  and  $Alk^3$  are optionally substituted  $C_1$ - $C_3$  alkyl,

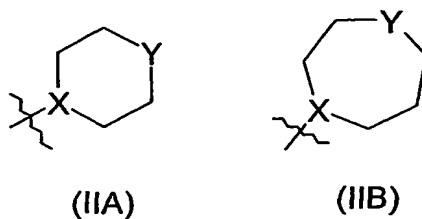
Cyc is an optionally substituted carbocyclic or heterocyclic radical;

m, n, p, r and s are independently 0 or 1,

Z is  $-O-$ ,  $-S-$ ,  $-(C=O)-$ ,  $-SO_2-$ ,  $-C(=O)O-$ ,  $-C(=O)NR^A-$ ,  $-SO_2NR^A-$ ,  $-NR^AC(=O)-$ ,  $-NR^ASO_2-$  or  $-NR^A-$  wherein  $R^A$  is hydrogen or  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl, and

Q is hydrogen or an optionally substituted carbocyclic or heterocyclic radical.

11. A compound as claimed in any of the preceding claims wherein ring A is a ring of formula (IIA) or (IIB):



wherein X represents CH or N, and Y represents CH, O, S or NH, wherein (i) a ring carbon is optionally substituted, and/or (ii) a ring nitrogen is optionally substituted by a group of formula  $-(\text{Alk}^1)_p-(\text{Z})_r-(\text{Alk}^2)_s-\text{Q}$  where

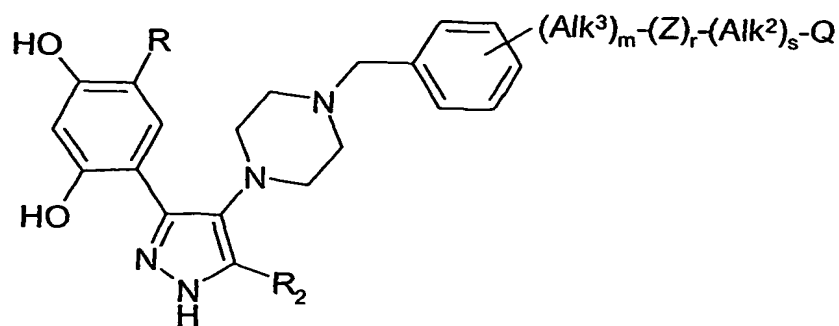
$\text{Alk}^1$ ,  $\text{Alk}^2$  are optionally substituted  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_3$  alkyl,

$p$ ,  $r$  and  $s$  are independently 0 or 1,

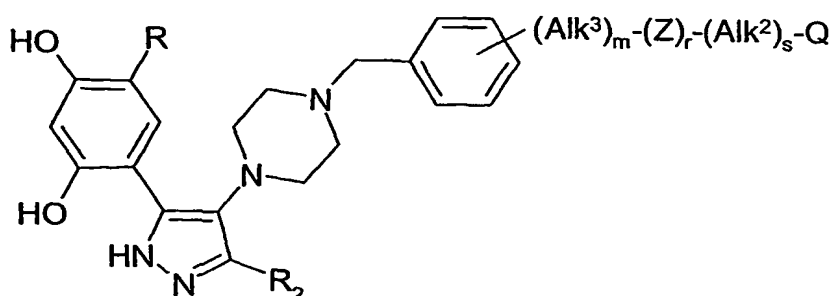
$\text{Z}$  is  $-\text{O}-$ ,  $-\text{S}-$ ,  $-(\text{C}=\text{O})-$ ,  $-\text{SO}_2-$ ,  $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{O}-$ ,  $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{NR}^{\text{A}}-$ ,  $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^{\text{A}}-$ ,  $-\text{NR}^{\text{A}}\text{C}(=\text{O})-$ ,  $-\text{NR}^{\text{A}}\text{SO}_2-$  or  $-\text{NR}^{\text{A}}-$  wherein  $\text{R}^{\text{A}}$  is hydrogen or  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_6$  alkyl, and

$\text{Q}$  is hydrogen or an optionally substituted carbocyclic or heterocyclic radical.

12. A compound as claimed in claim 10 or claim 11 wherein the optionally substituted ring A is of formula (IIA) wherein X is N and Y is NH or CH.
13. A compound as claimed in claim 11 wherein the optionally substituted ring A is of formula (IIA), X is N, and Y is  $-\text{NR}^{\text{A}}-$  wherein  $\text{R}^{\text{A}}$  is a radical of formula  $-(\text{Alk}^1)-\text{Q}$ , wherein  $\text{Alk}^1$  is a  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_3$  alkylene radical and Q is optionally substituted phenyl, pyridyl, furyl, thienyl, oxadiazolyl, imidazolyl or morpholinyl.
14. A compound as claimed in claim 13 wherein  $\text{R}^{\text{A}}$  is an optionally substituted benzyl group.
15. A compound as claimed in claim 11 wherein the optionally substituted ring A is of formula (IIA), X is N, and Y is  $-\text{NR}^{\text{A}}-$  wherein  $\text{R}^{\text{A}}$  is a radical of formula  $-(\text{Alk}^1)_p-(\text{Cyc})_n-(\text{Alk}^3)_m-(\text{Z})_r-(\text{Alk}^2)_s-\text{Q}$ .
16. A compound as claimed in claim 15 wherein  $p$  is 1 and  $m$  are each 1, and Cyc is a phenylene radical.
17. A compound of formula (IC) or (ID) or a salt, N-oxide, hydrate or solvate thereof::



(IC)



(ID)

wherein R is hydrogen, an optional substituent, or a phenylethyl group which is optionally substituted in the phenyl ring, and  $R_2$ , m, r, s,  $Alk^3$ , Z and  $Alk^2$  are as defined in claim 1.

18. A compound as claimed in claim 17 wherein  $R_2$  is hydrogen.
19. A compound as claimed in claim 17 or claim 18 wherein R is chloro, bromo, or a phenylethyl group which is optionally substituted in the phenyl ring.
20. A compound as claimed in any of claims 17 to 19 wherein s is 0, r is 1, and Z is  $-C(=O)NH-$
21. A compound as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 which is specifically named or disclosed herein or which is the subject of an Example herein.

22. A method of treatment of diseases or conditions responsive to inhibition of HSP90 activity in mammals, in particular in humans, which method comprises administering to the mammal an effective amount of a compound as claimed in any of the preceding claims.

23. A compound as claimed in any of claims 1 to 21, for use in human or veterinary medicine.

24. A compound as claimed in any of claims 1 to 21, for use in the treatment of diseases or conditions responsive to inhibition of HSP90 activity.

25. The use of a compound as claimed in any of claims 1 to 21 in the preparation of an agent for the management of diseases or conditions responsive to inhibition of HSP90 activity.

26. A method as claimed in claim 22, a compound for use as claimed in claim 23 or claim 24, or the use as claimed in claim 25 wherein the disease or condition is cancer.

27. A method as claimed in claim 22, a compound for use as claimed in claim 23 or claim 24, or the use as claimed in claim 25 wherein the disease or condition is a viral disease, transplant rejection, inflammatory disease, asthma, multiple sclerosis, Type I diabetes, lupus, psoriasis, inflammatory bowel disease, cystic fibrosis, angiogenesis-related disease, diabetic retinopathy, haemangioma, or endometriosis.